ABERYSTWYTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Public Health Department

Annual Report 1955

ABERYSTWYTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mayors of Aberystwyth

1954/55.	1955/56.
Alderman E.W.Roberts.	Alderman W.G.Rowlands

Committees dealing with Health matters

	Committee		Chairman	Members
(1)	Health & Housing Committee,	1954/55. 1955/56.	Alderman R.J.Ellis, Councillor E.W.Roberts,	All Members of the Council.
(2)	Housing Sub-Committee,	1954/55. 1955/56.	Alderman R.J.Ellis, Councillor E.W.Roberts,	Fourteen Members.
(3)	Public Works Committee,	1954/55. 1955/56.	Councillor G.Williams, Alderman R.J.Ellis,	All Members of the Council.

Public Health Officers of the Authority

Medical Officer of Health,	...	I.Morgan Watkin, Ph.D.(Lond.); M.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.(Wales).
Chief Sanitary Inspector, Housing Inspector, Inspector of Meat and other Foods,	...	O.R.N.Hoskins, M.R.S.H.
Additional Sanitary Inspector, Housing Inspector, Inspector of Meat and other Foods,	...	D.J.A.Humphreys,

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Your Worship the Mayor, the Chairman of the Health and Housing Committee, Aldermen and Members of the Borough Council.

PREFACE

The present Annual Report which covers the year ended on December 31st 1955, is the fifth which I have had pleasure in presenting to you. It will, unfortunately, by my last as I shall be leaving your service shortly.

Looking back over the last five years it is extremely gratifying to note that the Borough has not been subjected to any serious outbreak of infectious disease. On the contrary, if we examine the vital statistics for the Borough closely, one of the points which strikes one forcibly is the relative absence of all types of serious infectious disease.

The number of live births registered during the year was one hundred and thirteen - six fewer than in 1954. Three still births were registered as against four in the preceding year. Four infants died under the age of a twelve month - one fewer than in 1954. No death was ascribed to pregnancy or childbirth.

Sixty-four males and seventy-eight females died during the year as against seventy-five males and seventy-six females during the preceding year. Of the former, thirty-five were ascribed to heart disease, thirty-two to cancer and twenty-five to vascular lesions of the nervous system (strokes). The remaining deaths were due to a variety of causes as may be seen from the table later in the report.

The number of notified cases of tuberculosis continues to show a gradual decline from fourteen in 1953, to eleven in 1954 and to nine in 1955. It is to be hoped that this healthy trend will be assisted by the inoculation of tuberculosis-sensitive school children with B.C.G. vaccine.

Among the miscellaneous items investigated during the year was a small outbreak of food poisoning due to the organism Salmonella typhi murium. Enquiries of the affected persons and of those in the same household suggested that cakes purchased at a particular cafe in the town might have some bearing upon the outbreak. As the cakes were manufactured outside the Borough, it was decided to carry out a medical examination of all the bakery staff as well as of the employees of the cafe. The only person found to be infected was an employee of the cafe. Although this person denied handling cakes, she had been seen helping to place some of them in the window at the material time. All that can be said about the causation of the outbreak is that, after this person was suspended from duty, no further case of food poisoning occurred in the town for the remainder of the year.

Before the occurrence of the case of paralytic poliomyelitis in the children's ward of the Aberystwyth Hospital last summer, a peculiar illness, very suggestive of poliomyelitis in non-paralytic form, had been affecting a number of children in the Borough. My attention was first drawn to the matter by one of the local doctors who had, under his care, nearly a dozen children running high temperatures and suffering from severe headaches.

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Several of these had been delirious and a few had displayed neck rigidity. The illness cleared up in each case in under a week. After consultation it was agreed that it was not justifiable to admit any of these children to the Isolation Hospital and subject them to lumbar puncture merely for the purpose of obtaining information of diagnostic value. Looking back it seems not improbable that these children suffered from an abortive type of poliomyelitis.

During the year a detailed report was submitted to the local authority for submission to the Welsh Office of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government upon the proposed Cwmcynfelin cemetery. The report, which was prepared in conjunction with the Parks Department, was based on the Ministry of Health's requirements in its Memorandum on the Sanitary Requirements of Burial Grounds.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	1,141.
Polulation (Census 1951)	9,315.
Population (Registrar General's Mid-Year 1955) ..	10,460.
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1955, ...	£69,100.
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1956, ...	£190,495.
Sum represented by a penny rate at 1st April, 1955,	£280.
Estimated sum to be obtained by a penny rate at 1st April, 1956,	£636.

Number of various premises

Domestic.	
Houses and Flats (other then Agricultural Dwelling-Houses)	2,655.
Agricultural Dwelling-Houses	6.
Commercial.	
Shops with Private Dwelling Accommodation	132.
Shops (including Banks in shopping areas) and Cafes ..	152.
Offices (including Banks in office areas)	70.
Hotels and Boarding Houses	38.
Holiday Camps and Caravan Fields	2.
Warehouses, Stores and Workshops (Non-Industrial) ..	108.
Garages (Commercial) Peltrol Filling Stations and Car Parks	49.
Lock-up Garages	123.
Markets	2.
On-Licensed Premises.	
Public Houses	26.
Restaurants	1.
Entertainment and Recreational.	
Cinemas	2.
Theatres and Music Halls	1.
Sports Grounds	5.
Social Clubs, Community Centres and Public Halls ..	16.
Other places of entertainment	5.
Public Utility.	
Water, Gas, etc., ...	3.
Educational and Cultural.	
Libraries, Museums, etc., ...	2.
Schools and Colleges, etc., (Local Authority)	6.
Schools and Colleges, etc., (Non-Local Authority) ..	3.
University Colleges	21.
Miscellaneous.	
Crown Property (including National Health Hospitals) ..	29.
Other Hospitals, etc., ...	2.
Cemeteries	1.
Town Halls and Municipal Offices	4.
Road Transport - Depots and Yards	1.
Properties not classified	27.
Industrial.	
Factories and Workshops	13.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

		Total	Male	Female
Number of registered live births	Leg:	111	59	52
	Illeg:	2	1	1
Number of registered still births	Leg:	3	2	1
	Illeg:	-	-	-
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year ..	Leg:	4	2	2
	Illeg:	-	-	-
Number of deaths of infants under 4 weeks ..	Leg:	4	2	2
	Illeg:	-	-	-
Number of deaths of women ascribed to childbirth ..		Nil		
Number of registered deaths		142	64	78
Areal comparability factor for births		1.09		
Areal comparability factor for deaths		0.87		

CAUSES OF DEATH

Registrar General's Code Number	Cause of Death	Number of deaths Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease	1	-	1
4	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5	Whooping Cough..	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8	Measles	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	4	3	7
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	1	5
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast ..	-	5	5
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	-	2	2
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	4	13
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16	Diabetes	1	1	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	16	25
18	Coronary disease, angina	6	2	8
19	Hypertension with heart disease ..	-	5	5
20	Other heart disease	8	14	22
21	Other circulatory disease	4	8	12
22	Influenza	-	-	-
23	Pneumonia	4	3	7
24	Bronchitis	1	3	4
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	1	-	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	2	3	5
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	5	-	5
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	5	8
33	Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
34	All other accidents	-	1	1
35	Suicide	2	-	2
36	Homicide and operations of war ..	-	-	-
	Total ..	64	78	142

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a list of the notifications of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, received during the year.

Cholera	-
Diphtheria	-
Dysentery (amoebic and bacillary)	-
Encephalitis	-
Erysipelas	1
Food Poisoning	4
Malaria	-
Measles	88
Meningococcal meningitis	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum..	-
Paratyphoid fever	-
Plague	-
Pneumonia (acute primary and acute influenzal) ..	1
Poliomyelitis..	1
Relapsing fever	-
Scarlet fever..	9
Typhoid fever..	-
Typhus fever	-
Whooping Cough	-

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the sex and age distribution of the nine new cases.

AGE GROUP	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 4	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	1
10 - 14	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	1	1	-	-
25 - 29	-	-	-	-
30 - 34	1	-	-	-
35 - 39	-	-	-	-
40 - 44	-	-	-	-
45 - 49	1	-	-	-
50 - 54	2	1	-	-
55 - 59	-	-	-	-
60 and over	-	1	-	-
TOTALS	5	3	-	1

No action was taken under Section 172, of the Public Health Act, 1936.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

They are as follows :-

(a) An ante-natal and post-natal clinic is held fortnightly at the Health Department, Swyddfa'r Sir. The new consultant in obstetrics and gynaecology has been discussing with the local health authority the question of providing an ante-natal clinic under the aegis of the Regional Hospital Board. This would be infinitely preferable to the present arrangement as X-ray facilities would be available at these examinations. The district midwife would be requested to attend with the patient so that she would become fully conversant with all the medical aspects of the case prior to delivery.

(b) Infant welfare clinics are held twice weekly at Swyddfa'r Sir and fortnightly at the Neuadd Goffa, Penparcau. A few Aberystwyth residents find it more convenient to attend the fortnightly clinic held at the Church Hall, Llanbadarn.

(c) The domiciliary midwifery service is carried out by two district nurses who are also state certified midwives.

(d) The Borough is covered by two Health Visitors, one of whom devotes her entire time to the Borough area whilst the other also covers part of the surrounding Rural District.

(e) Home nursing is in the hands of one nurse who devotes her entire time to nursing and two district nurse-midwives.

(f) Vaccination against smallpox is carried out by the person's own doctor but immunisation against diptheria is performed partly by the former and partly by the local health authority. The County Council has presented no scheme for whooping cough immunisation. B.C.G. immunisation is carried out on school children of a selected age group and upon those who have been in intimate contact with a case of tuberculosis and who display susceptibility to the disease.

(g) The headquarters of the ambulance service are at Aberystwyth. Three ambulances and a county relief ambulance are stationed in the town.

(h) Arrangements for the prevention of illness consist of periodic talks and advice given by the staff of the local health authority. Care and after care are in the hands of the health visitors and the district nurses.

(i) Domestic help is provided by suitable persons engaged locally. There are no full-time Home Helps in the Borough.

(j) Aberystwyth Hospital is the principal general hospital in the area of the Mid-Wales Hospital Management Committee. The infectious diseases' unit is situated a short distance from the town at Tanybwlch Hospital. The mental hospital normally serving the area is St. David's Hospital, Carmarthen.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

The laboratory has continued to carry out bacteriological examinations of water, ice-cream and other articles of food. Consultations with Dr.H.V.M.Sudds, the Director of the Laboratory, on problems of mutual interest have assisted in the maintenance of a high standard of food hygiene in the town.

WATER

The health Department take two samples of water per week from various parts of the town and submit them for bacteriological analysis to the Medical Research Council's Area Laboratory, and any unsatisfactory sample is immediately followed up by further sampling.

Number of samples taken	..	105.
Highly Satisfactory	..	105.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH

In accordance with the International Sanitary Regulations, (World Health Regulations No.2) to which Great Britain is a signatory power, nineteen international vaccination certificates of persons residing in Aberystwyth and proceeding to certain destinations overseas were authenticated in the prescribed manner.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF COUNCIL EMPLOYEES

Twenty-four employees of the Council were medically examined during the year to ascertain their fitness for acceptance, either under the Superannuation Acts, or under the Council's Sick Pay Scheme.

SECTION 47 OF THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

This section gives the local authority power, on the certificate of the Medical Officer of Health, to apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for the removal of persons unable to devote to themselves and not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention. To be dealt with under this section the patient must either (a) be suffering from grave chronic disease, or (b) be aged, infirm or physically handicapped and living in insanitary conditions.

No action was required to be taken under this section during the course of the year.

GENERAL

The second half of the report, with which I concur, is prepared by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Medical Officer of Health.

Swyddfa'r Sir,
(Council Offices)
Aberystwyth.

Tel: Aberystwyth 7581-9.

REPORT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

To The Mayor, Chairman of the Health and Housing Committee,
Aldermen, and Members of the Aberystwyth Borough Council.

Gentlemen,

It is a privilege to again submit my part of the Annual Report and in doing so I wish to pay tribute to the Staff for their co-operation and assistance throughout the year.

The continued support and confidence of the Council has been much appreciated.

STAFF

The staff of the Department consists of :-

Chief Sanitary Inspector,	..	O.R.N.Hoskins, M.R.S.H.
Additional Sanitary Inspector,	..	D.J.A.Humphreys,
Clerical Officer,	..	W.D.James,
Rodent Operator,	..	C.Y.Jones,

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Enforcement

Complaints received	108
Complaints not justified	12
Matters referred to other Departments for abatement ..	27
Preliminary Notices served	78
Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action..	85
Number of representations made to the Local Authority :-	
(a) Statutory Notices applied for	23
(b) (i) Closing Orders applied for	Nil
(ii) Demolition Orders applied for	Nil
Number of formal notices served requiring the execution of works	23
Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	13
Number of (a) Demolition Orders made	Nil
(b) Closing Orders becoming effective ..	1
Number of houses demolished..	Nil
Nuisance Orders issued	2
Nuisance Orders complied	2
Factory Act Notices served	2
Factory Act Notices complied	1
Number of dwellings visited re overcrowding	1
Number of dwellings overcrowded	Nil
Number of houses inspected (Public Health Act and Housing Act)	401
Number of houses re-inspected (Public Health Act and Housing Act)	494
Number of visits for infectious disease	45
Housing Certificates (Housing Repairs & Rent Act 1954) ..	1
Improvement Grant visits	Nil
Premises other than houses inspected for nuisances ..	39
Factories.	
Non-power :- Bakehouses	Nil
Laundries	1
Miscellaneous	8
Power:- Bakehouses	1
Laundries	Nil
Miscellaneous	15
Work Places, other than offices	1
Offices	Nil

Other classifications

Common Lodging Houses	1
Tents, Vans, Sheds or similar structures	16
Cinemas and Amusement Places	1
Public Houses and Licensed Premises	5
Water Supply and sampling visits	120
Refuse Tips	2
Accummulations	11
Sewers, Street gullies, back roads etc., ...	5
Drains	223
Water Courses	3
Public Conveniences	61
Cesspools	7
Flooding	3
Smoke or grit observations	2
Swine, Fowl and other animals or birds	1
Visits not classified	158
Inspections for infestations	6
Number of premises found verminous	3
Slaughterhouse	644
Food inspection	
Food and Drugs Act visits	4
Milk Regulations, Dairies, Milkshops & Purveyors visits ..	9
Ice-cream premises and vehicles (Inspection & sampling) ..	78
Restaurants and Food Preparing premises	35
Food Shops, Stores and Markets	154
Butchers	11
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	10
Railway Station re food	4
Food Bye-laws visits	2
Shops Act, 1950	
Shops inspection	4
Pest Act, 1949	
Rat and Mice infestation visits	24

SUMMARY OF WORK EXECUTED.

Houses.

Extensively repaired	11
Minor repairs completed	20
Dirty or verminous conditions remedied.. ..	4
Walls repaired	16
Walls or ceilings cleansed and redecorated ..	2
Outside plastering repaired	4
Inside plastering repaired	20
Floors renewed or repaired	6
Roofs renewed or repaired	15
Chutes, downpipes or gutters renewed or repaired..	26
Chimneys repaired	3
Ceilings repaired	1
Doors and frames repaired	3
Window sashes or frames renewed or repaired ..	7
Window cords renewed	2
Staircase repaired	1
Grates or ovens repaired or renewed	1
Boilers provided	1
Yard paving relaid or repaired	3
Accummulations removed	1
Water supply provided	1
Water taps or pipes repaired..	3

Drainage

Drains tested, Chemical	7
Drains tested, Water	27
New drains constructed	5
Drains re-laid or repaired	16
Drains cleansed	15
Inspection or Intercepting chambers provided ..	1
Inspection or Intercepting chambers repaired ..	2
Gullies fixed	3
Troughs or sinks provided	2
Baths waste trapped or repaired	1

Water Closets

W.C.'s reconstructed or repaired	1
New pans fixed	3
Flushing apparatus provided	8
Miscellaneous repairs	2
Cesspools emptied	7

Factory Act, 1937.

Sanitary accommodation found insufficient ..	2
Sanitary accommodation not separate for sexes ..	1
Provision of W.C's	2
Provision of urinals	1

Works executed, continued.

Food Shops, Kitchens etc.,

Cleanliness improved	1
Storage arrangements improved	1
Lighting or ventilation improved	1
Washing-up sinks fixed	1
Hot water supply provided	2
Other repairs	1

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Existing dairies improved or repaired	1
Cleansing carried out	3

Moveable Dwellings, Public Health Act 1936.

Licences issued authorising land to be used ..	1
Licences issued authorising persons to use ..	1

MEAT INSPECTION (ABATTOIR)

The slaughter and inspection of animals, both ante and post-mortem, at the Abattoir was as set out in the table below.

Aberystwyth Abattoir.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number of animals killed ..	1,053	2,063	22,976	4,519	30,561
Percentage of total.					
All diseases except T.B.					
Whole carcases condemned ..	15	8	45	4	7,386 lbs.
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	905	11	2,554	76	14,360 lbs.
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. ..	87.98%	.92%	11.32%	1.77%	
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned ..	4	-	-	2	2,582 lbs.
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	66	-	-	57	3,234 lbs.
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	6.65%	-	-	1.31%	
Total weight of meat condemned at Abattoir ..					27,562 lbs.

The number of visits for meat inspection again rose, this time to 644. The Abattoir is still used by wholesale and retail butchers, but the great proportion of its through-put is for the wholesale trade, much of this being sent to London wholesale markets. All the meat killed is inspected before leaving the premises and the various persons engaged therein co-operate in ensuring this is maintained.

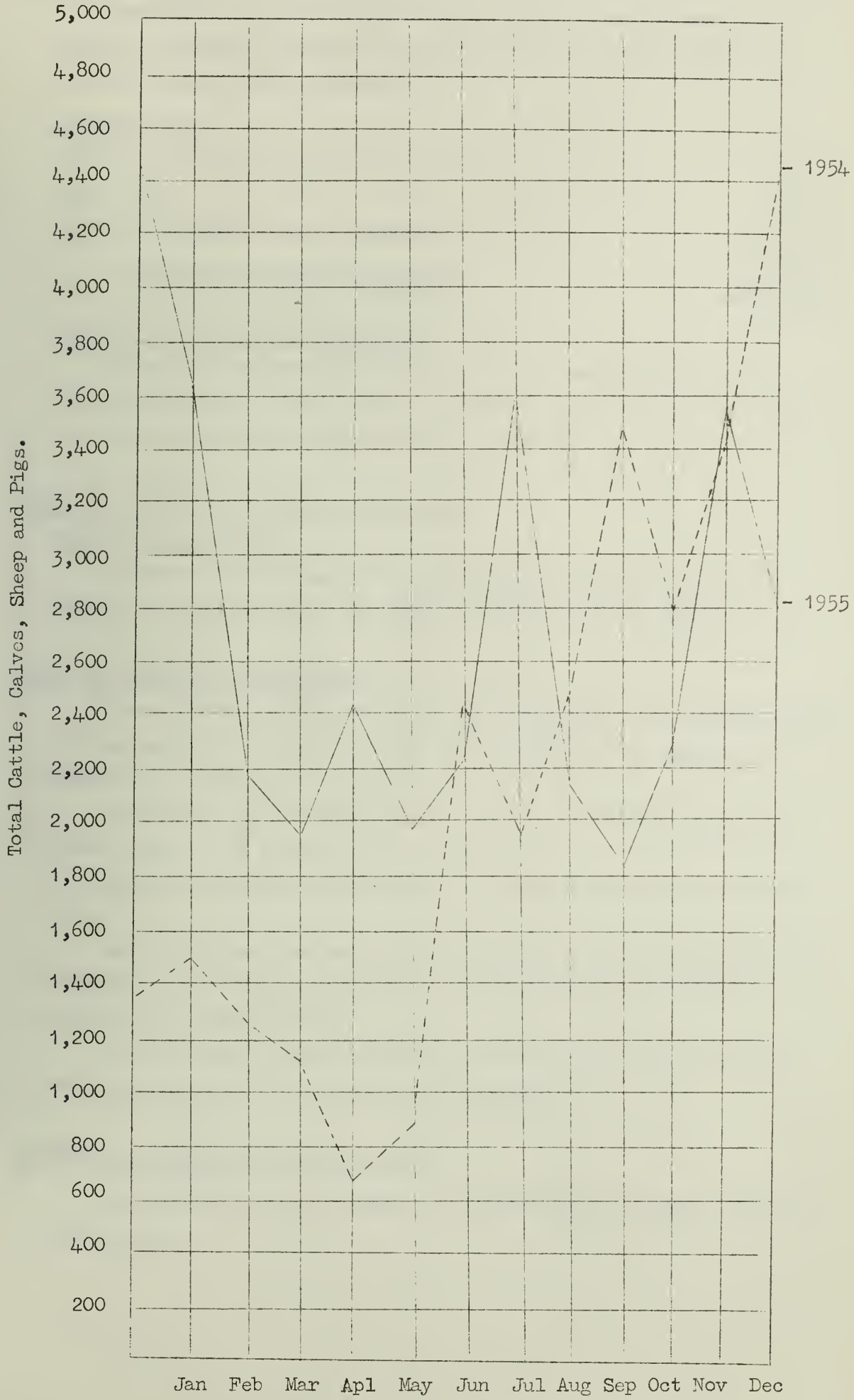
No Cysticercus Bovis has been discovered during the year, although all cattle are still subjected to the routine examination and vigilance has in no way relaxed. No Bowel oedema in pigs has been observed during the past year. The Officers of the Animal Health Division and the Veterinary Investigation Departments of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, have continued to be most helpful and I take the opportunity of expressing thanks for their advice, assistance and co-operation on many occasions.

It is necessary to explain that the number of Beef carcases suffering with Tuberculosis may appear high, but it must be remembered that this Abattoir handles most of the reactors in the entire County of Cardigan, and only four of these were found to be so badly affected that total condemnation was necessary. At the same time, it will be noted that parts of sixty-six had to be condemned, this out of a total of eighty-six reactors will indicate the position.

All these animals, including reactors, were subjected to post-mortem examination by your meat inspectors.

ABATTOIR

The attached graph gives an indication of the trend in slaughtering during the year.



FOOD INSPECTION

Food shops in the Borough were visited and goods inspected as occasion demanded. Unsound foods were dealt with both at traders premises and at this Department.

Condemnations.

Fresh and canned meat and meat products	..	..	1,316 lbs.
Fish, wet	..	..	238 lbs.
Canned and Miscellaneous condemned	..	..	1,141 lbs.
Total of foodstuffs condemned	..	..	2,729 lbs.

Disposal of condemned foodstuffs.

Items of condemned food are disposed by destruction in the following manner. Tinned goods by puncture and burial at the refuse tip. Dried packaged foodstuffs by incineration.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938, Section 14.

Registered premises.

Premises for the manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale now total eight.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS.

There are three dairy farms in the Borough and the responsibility for the production of milk thereon is invested in the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Dairies (not being dairy farms) number ten and the registered Distributors total twenty-four.

Dealers operating under Licence or Supplementary Licence total nine.

Local supplies continue to be drawn from Newtown, Carmarthen and Felinfach, part being in bottles and part in churns and this is retailed by local dairymen.

As the result of milk sampling five samples were submitted to the Laboratory, and all proved up to standard.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS 1933 - 1934.

No new licenses were issued to slaughtermen but twelve licenses were renewed.

ICE-CREAM.

The general result of ice-cream sampling shows that 90% of all samples fell in Grade 1 and 2, whilst the other 10% were in Grade 3, no samples were in Grade 4 for the fourth year in succession.

The drop in Grade 1 and 2 results is solely confined to local ice-cream and shows there is still a need for care in such cases.

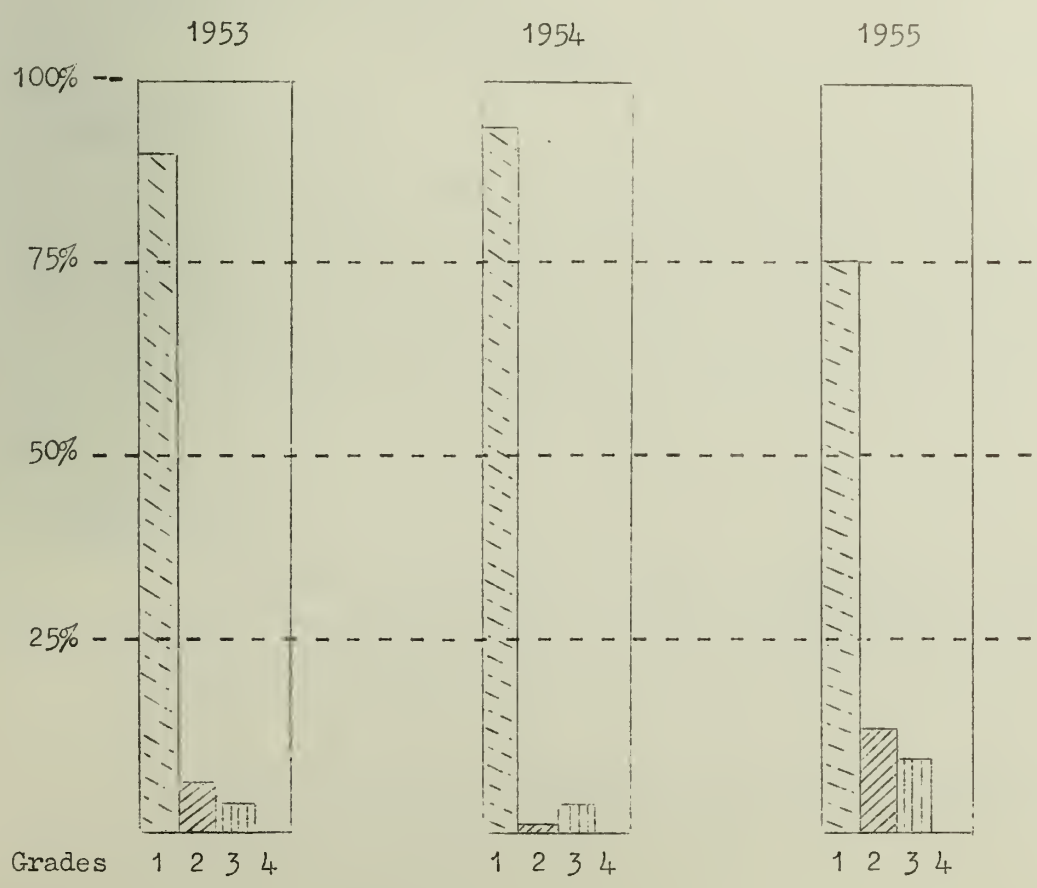
Arrangements have now been made for the supply of water to the ice-cream kiosks on the sea front and this should be of assistance in these stalls.

Number of premises in area of Local Authority = 46) = 49.
Number of kiosks in area of Local Authority = 3)

During the year sixty-nine samples of ice-cream were taken and the following results obtained :-

Grade 1	..	53	= 76%)	= 90%.
Grade 2	..	9	= 14%)	
Grade 3	..	7	= 10%	
Grade 4	..	0		
		69		

Comparative index of ice-cream samples for past three years



LICENSED VICTUALLING AND CLUBS

The condition of the licensed premises continues to be satisfactory and in one instance extensive alterations were carried out to the sanitary accommodation with considerable improvement as a result.

The Licensing Justices again requested an annual report and their interest in the condition of the premises in the Borough has been most encouraging.

HOUSING

The housing position is still a problem and at the end of the year 453 applications were on the Housing List, approximately 2/3rd of these being in need of housing accommodation. As previously the majority of these applicants consist of small units, such as married couples without children, or with only one child. New applications totalled 144, and consisted of families comprising 336 persons.

Housing during the year was provided for 116 families, including 13 transferred families consisting of 37 persons from existing dwellings to make full use of available accommodation. New lettings totalled 103 and accommodation was provided for 329 persons.

88 municipal dwellings were erected during the year and 5 private dwellings.

FACTORY ACT, 1937.

73 factories exist in the Borough, 63 being power operated and 10 non-power. The number of power operated factories continues to increase and there seems little to be gained by distinguishing between the two types. During the year 6 premises were the subject of change and one new factory came into being.

DISINFECTION

Nineteen cases were the subject of disinfection as the result of infectious disease. Three premises where non-notifiable disease had occured were disinfected and charges made for the work.

The provision of a boiler for the steam disinfector has not yet been achieved, but it is hoped in the very near future this will be remedied.

PEST ACT, 1949.

Rats and Mice

	Owned by Local Authority (Non-domestic)	Dwelling houses (Local Authority and Private)	Other premises (Business and Industrial)	Total
Number of Premises	12	2,661	845	3,518.
Inspected and Reinspected	118	448	196	762
Infested by mice	2	53	17	72
Infested by rats	7	31	14	52
Treated	9	84	31	124

The bi-annual sewer treatment is carried out by the Rodent Operator assisted by a labourer.

There are now 340 manholes which have to be dealt with on each occasion for inspection, pre-baiting or poisoning and this work appears to be justified as the surface infestations when found are all of a minor character and do not appear to be based on the sewers.

Infestation complaints during the year totalled 88, 46 of these being mice and 42 being rats. The treatment for abatement was carried out immediately in each case, but no infestations were of a major character.

Disinfestation - Vermin.

Business and domestic premises totalling fifteen were treated for infestation by fleas, bugs, ants and cockroaches. Charges were made for the work executed and advice was given as required.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This work is carried out by the Public Works Department under the control of the Borough Surveyor. Domestic refuse, trade refuse and salvage are collected at least once a week and more frequently as required, by covered motor vehicles. Tipping is carried out at Felin-y-Mor and covering material spread to prevent nuisance.

The unsightly collection of receptacles used for the deposit of refuse awaiting collection continues.

CESSPOOLS

Forty-nine premises in the Borough are not connected to the sewerage system. A few of these are satisfactory, but the remainder are potential nuisances. During the year eight cesspools were pumped out by the Borough Surveyor's Department. In the case of Rhydyfelin and Antaron Avenue, a sewage disposal plant would appear to be the only satisfactory solution.

HEALTH CONGRESS, ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE.

Bournemouth, 26th to 29th April, 1955.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector attended as your representative and following the opening of the Congress, the following papers were used as a basis for discussion.

"The Duties and Training of the Staff of the Public Health Department" by Prof.R.H.Parry, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.H.

"Prevention of Disease under the National Health Service" by Prof.T.McKeown, M.D., P.H.D., D.Phil., M.R.C.P.

"A Review of Some Factors Influencing the Post-Mortem Changes in Meat" by J.M.Olivant, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.

"Mastitis in the Dairy Cow: Its Agricultural and Public Health Importance" by S.J.Edwards, D.SC., F.R.C.V.S.

"Family Background and Behaviour" by Hilda N.Lewis, M.D., M.R.C.P.

"The Training of Neglectful and Unsatisfactory Mothers" by Mary D.Sheridan, M.A., M.D., D.C.H.

"Normal Processing Techniques" by John Yudkin, M.A., M.D., PH.D., F.R.I.C.

"Fortification" by A.J.Amos, B.SC., PH.D., F.R.I.C.

"Focus on Child Health in the Tropics" by Cicely D.Williams, D.M., F.R.C.P., D.T.M.& H.

"The Organization of Rural Health Services in a Tropical Country" by T.Farnworth Anderson, O.B.E., M.A., M.D., D.T.M.& H.

"The Design and Lay-out of Crematoria" by A.R.Twentyman, M.A., A.A.DIP., F.R.I.B.A., H.R.Hems, A.M.INST.GASE., and J.H.Crossley.

"The Widening Horizon of Preventive Medicine" A.L.Cochrane, M.B.E., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., and John H.F.Brotherston, M.A., M.D., D.P.H., DR.P.H.

"Noise - Its Effect on Auditory Acuity" by Air Vice-Marshal E.D. Dalzief Dickson, C.B., C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.S.E., D.L.O.

"Noise - Its Production, Reduction and Suppression" By T.S.Littler, PH.D., F.INST.P.,

"Noise - Its Effect on Behaviour, by D.E.Broadbent, M.A.

"Planning the Heat Services of a New Town" by W.A.Evetts, M.C., M.INST.GAS.E., and W.G.Phillips, M.A., M.INST.GAS.E.

"The Disposal of House Refuse, with Special Reference to Tipping in Rural Areas, by H.E.Gilby, F.R.I.C.S., M.I.MUN.E.

"The Widening Duties of the Health Visitor" by H.D.Chalke, O.B.E.(MIL), T.D., M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

"The Health Visitor and the Care of the Family, with Particular Reference to Mental Health" by Miss E.Rodenhurst, B.A., S.R.N., S.C.M.

"Health Education and the Health Visitor" by Mrs.M.Potter.

"Health Surveys" by Ira Hiscock, D.SC.

"Public Health Administration by the Smaller Local Authorities" by C.F.Allard.

"Clean Food: Enforcement or Education?" by F.G.Sugden.

"Health and Welfare of the Office Worker" by F.Gerald Davies.

"Our Family Health Services ;- What are Their Needs?" by Miss E.K.Bally, S.R.N., S.C.M., Miss M.B.Powell, S.R.N., S.C.M., and R.J.F.H.Pinsent, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

"Early Childhood as a Leaning Experience" by Kenneth Soddy, M.D., D.P.M.

"A Community Approach to the Mental Hygiene of the Young Child" by F.H.Stone, M.B., CH.B., F.R.E.P.S.G., M.R.C.P.

"Opportunities for Guidance in the Early Years" by Mrs.Elizabeth E.Irvine, M.A.

"Planning for Industry" by T.F.Thomson, M.T.P.I.

"A Study of Housing Maintenance Costs" by L.J.A.Stow, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.MUN.E.

"Pictorial Propaganda" by Kenneth Bird, C.B.E.

"Pictorial Argument" by John Burton, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

This concludes my report.

I am Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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